

HCS SB 994 -- ALCOHOL

SPONSOR: Munzlinger

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Agriculture Policy by a vote of 15 to 0. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on Agriculture by a vote of 8 to 3.

Currently, the Missouri Wine and Grape Board may participate in studies in the areas of sales, promotions, and the effective distribution of Missouri wines in order to effectuate the goals of the Board. This bill allows the board to oversee and provide any professional or legal services to promote such marketing goals.

This bill also provides that a person whose liquor license has been revoked will automatically be eligible for employment in an establishment holding a liquor license five years after the date of the revocation, and will be eligible to apply for a new liquor license issuable at the discretion of the Division of Alcohol and Tobacco Control.

Currently, all malt beverages purchased for resale in Missouri must physically come into the possession of and be unloaded into and distributed from the warehouse of a licensed wholesaler. This bill expands this requirement to all intoxicating liquor.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that wineries in Missouri have been sued by out-of-state entities on issues relating to Internet sales. This bill would allow the Wine and Grape Board to use funds to hire outside counsel as needed.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Munzlinger and the Missouri Wine and Grape Board.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.